THE BOMBAY COURIER.

[PUBLISHE THRICE A-WEEK,—EVERY TUESDAY, THURSDAY, AND SATURDAY MORNING.—PRICE 14 RUPEES PER QUARTER.]

VOL. XLV.] TUESDAY, 3 OCTOBER, 1837. [NO. 9431.

FOR LONDON.—The well known river-built Ship *Sarah*, Captain *J. T. Whiteside*; has excellent accommodations for Passengers, carries an experienced Surgeon, and will call on the Coast if sufficient inducement offers.—For Freight or Passage, apply to, GREY AND Co.
Rampart Row, 3d October, 1837.

THE BOMBAY COURIER.

THE PROPRIETORS of this paper having determined in consequence of the act for the Regulation of Postage coming into operation at the begining of next month to publish their paper THREE TIMES A WEEK instead of twice as heretofore, the Public are respectfully informed that from and after the 1st of October next the BOMBAY COURIER will consist of one sheet to be published every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at the price of 14 Rs. per Quarter. The Subscribers thus will be supplied with Intelligence, not only at more regular intervals, but from the diminution of Postage at considerably less expence than has hitherto necessarily been incurred, with the advantage of an additional publication every week.—Bombay, October, 3d 1837.

THE SPECTATOR.

A MADRAS NEWSPAPER published twice a week on Wednesday and Saturday Evenings.

The SPECTATOR is printed on a double sheet and contains 32 colums of matter.

Terms of Subscription Rs. 10 per quarter or Rs. 35 per annum if paid in advance.

N. B. The total annual postage to any part of the Bombay Presidency will be Rs. 20.

Agents at Bombay *Messer. Skinner and Co.*

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Partnership subsisting between us, *John Bagshaw, Robert John Bagshaw, John Allan*, and *Robert Cunningham Paton*, of the Town of Calcutta, Merchants and Agents, under the firm of *Bagshaw and Company*, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, and that the said *John Bagshaw, Robert John Bagshaw, John Allan* and *Robert Cunningham Paton* will pay and receive all debts due, and owing from the said Partnership in due course at the Office of the said late firm. All letters to be addressed to *Messrs. Bagshaw and Co. in liquidation.*

As Witness our hands
JOHN BAGSHAW, *by his Attorney Robert John Bagshaw.*
ROBERT JOHN BAGSHAW.
JOHN ALLAN,
ROBERT CUNNINGHAM PATON.
Calcutta, 15th September 1837.

With reference to the above notice of dissolution we have this day established ourselves, as Merchants and Agents, under the Style of *Allan, Paton and Company.*

J. ALLAN.
ROBERT C. PATON.

NOTICE.

IS hereby given, that the Partnership subsisting between John Bagshaw, Robert John Bagshaw, John Allen and Robert Cunningham Paton, of the Town of Calcutta, Merchants and Agents, under the Firm of Bagshaw and Company, has this-day been dissolved by mutual consent, and that the said John Bagshaw, Robert John Bagshaw, John Allen and Robert Cunningham Paton, will pay and receive all debts, due and owing to and from the said Partnership in due course at the Office of the said late firm. All letters to be addressed to *Messrs. Bagshaw and Co. in liquidation.*

As Witness our hands
JOHN BAGSHAW. *by his Attorney R. J. Bagshaw.*
ROBT. JOHN BAGSHAW.
JOHN ALLAN.
ROBT. CUNNINGHAM PATON.
Calcutta, 15th Sept. 1837.

With reference to the foregoing Advertisement.

Notice is hereby given, that the said John Bagshaw and Robert John Bagshaw, will continue the business of Merchants and Agents from this date, under the same style or firm of Bagshaw and Company, associated with Mr. William Clode Braddon, whom they have admitted a Partner in their new Establishment.

JOHN BAGSHAW. *by his Attorney R. J. Bagshaw.*
ROBT. JOHN BAGSHAW.
WILLIAM CLODE BRADDON.
Calcutta, 15th Sept 1837.

FOR SALE.—No. XXVII, of the Quarterly ARMY LIST; corrected up to the 31st July, 1837. Printed on Europe paper,—Price 3 Rupees.—Courier office, 3d October 1837.

TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF CLOTHING TO THE NIZAM'S ARMY.

THE Resident at Hyderabad, (on the part of the Nizam's Government) will, until Monday, the 23rd October next, receive Tenders for the supply of Clothing to the Nizam's Regular Army.

The Clothing is to be complete with Pads, shoulderstraps, (Grenadier and Light Companies with Wings)—Buttons with the Number of the Regiment, and to be made up in every respect as worn in the Company's Army and according to a Muster Jacket to be forwarded.

It is to be delivered at the following Stations and subject to survey on arrival.

Hyderabad	.....6 16 of the whole more or less		
Aurungabad	...5|16	do.	do.
Ellichpoor	..... 3|16	do.	do.
Hingolee	.....2|16	do.	do.

The Tenders will express the price of one of each article as hereafter detailed and is to include every charge for packing, carriage &ca, and to be delivered at the several stations above mentioned, on or before the 15th November 1838.

The Resident reserves to himself the right of rejecting any Tender without assigning a reason therefor.

The Person or Persons to whom the Contract is eventually given, will be expected to furnish the Security of a respectable House Agency for the due fulfilment of their Contract, in the Sum of Company's Rupees 20,000 Twenty thousand.

The mode of Payment will be as under One third of the Estimate on the Contract being closed, and approved of, and the receipt of the Clothing Indents acknowledged.

One third when the Clothing is half finished, and the other third when it is delivered, surveyed and approved of, at the several stations.

The Tenders are to be addressed "To, the Military Secretary to the Resident" Hyderabad "and to be superscribed" Tenders for clothing" any further information that may be required, will be afforded on application to the above Officer.

PROBABLE AMOUNT OF CLOTHING (MORE OR LESS) REQUIRED.

The Tenders will express the price of one of each article including all charges &c.

INFANTRY.
including Garrison Battalion and Company of Sappers

18	Staff Sergeants	Jackets.
80	Subidars	ditto
86	Jemadars	ditto
18	Drum Majors	ditto
6	Sergeants	ditto
9	Havildar Majors	ditto
384	Havildars	ditto
180	Drummers.	ditto
5,843	Rank and File	ditto
70	Lascars	ditto
70	Puckallies	ditto
18	Staff Sergeants	Caps.
6	Sergeants	ditto
70	Color Badges.	
10	Pairs Subidar Majors	Epaulettes.
17	ditto Subidar's Wings.	
52	ditto Subidars Battalion Company's Wings.	
16	ditto Jemadars Wings.	
70	ditto do. Battalion Company's Wings.	
18	ditto Drum Major's Wings.	
200	Girdles for Staff Sergeants, Native Officers and Drum Majors.	
400	Girdles for Havildars.	

INVALIDS.

2	Staff Sergeants	Jackets.
8	Subidars	ditto
15	Jemadars	ditto
6	Drum Majors	ditto
7	Sergeants	ditto
1	Havildar Major	ditto
40	Havildars	ditto
12	Drummers	ditto
240	Rank and File	ditto
2	Pairs Subidar Major's	Epaulettes
6	do. do. Battalion Company's	Epaulettes
15	do. do. Jemadars	ditto
6	do. Drum Major's Wings.	

ARTILLERY and STORE DEPARTMENT.

3	Staff Sergeants	Jackets.
5	Sergeants	ditto
4	Subidars	ditto
8	Jemadars	ditto
30	Havildars	ditto
1	Corporal's	ditto
9	Drummers	ditto
640	Rank and File	ditto
8	Puckallies	ditto
3	Syrang's	ditto
13	Tindals	ditto
120	Store Lascars	ditto
3	Staff Sergeants	Caps
5	Sergeants	ditto
4	Color Badges	
3	Pairs Subidar Major's Epaulettes.	
1	ditto ditto ditto.	
8	ditto Jemadars ditto.	
15	Girdles for Staff Sergeants and Native Officers, &ca.	
30	ditto for Havildars.	

1st Company,	Artillery including General Department	3rd	Infantry
2nd	do. and Store Department	4th	ditto
3rd	do. do.	5th	ditto
4th	do. do.	6th	ditto
One Company	of Sappers	7th	ditto
1st	Infantry	8th	ditto
2nd	do.	Garrison	Battalion
		Invalid	ditto

By Order.
J. A. MOORE,—*Mil. Sect.*

Meiity. Secretary's Office, Huderbad Residency.—23rd August, 1837.

SALE BY AUCTION.

TO-MORROW Wednesday the 3d Proximo, Messrs. *Frith and Co.*, will snbmit for Sale, by Public Auction at their rooms, at 11 A. M. an Invoice of Glass Ware, consisting of French Moon Lamps, Spare Chimnies, Pickle Jars, Butter Cups complete, Coloured Flower Vases, Tumblers of sizes, Champagne, Claret, Wine and Liqueur Glasses, Plain and Coloured Finger Cups, Lacquered Lanterns, and Phials of different descriptions and sizes.

An Invoice of Silver articles, consisting of Silver handle Penknives, Scissors, Spectacles, Pin Cases &c. Also an Invoice of Real and Imitation Jewellery, Musical Snuff Boxes, German Silver Pencil Cases, Cruet Frames &c.

An Invoice of Fancy Stationery, consisting of Embossed Paper, Boards, Cards, Medallions, Portraits &c.

AT 3 P. M.

An Invoice of Choice and valuable Colored and Plain Engravings, Scrap Books, Illustrations of Modern Sculpture, Keepsake Illustrations &ca. &ca. this selection is particularly worthy of notice and to obviate as much as possible injury from handling, they will not be open to view until the afternoon of the 2d Proximo, on the same day an Invoice of Perfumery, Comprizing Hair, Tooth, Shaving and Nail Brushes, Smelling Salts, Honey and Lavender Water, and Hair Powder, &c. &c &c. a quantity of Superior real Cashmere Shawls, of different colours and sizes a variety of Household Furniture, and other property.

AT 1 P. M.

A Pair of Serviceable Carriage Horses adapted either for single or double Harness, and any Carriages or Cattle that may offer.
—Nesbit Lane, 3d October, 1837

TO BE LET FURNISHED.

ON THE MAHABULESHWUR HILLS—The cottage called "Four Oaks" the property of *John Warden Esq.*, If taken for the whole fair season it may be had for 800 Rupees for the whole period. If taken by the month the Rent from the 1st of October to the 1st of March is 90 rupees per mensem. From the 1st of March till the close of the season the rent is rupees 150 per mensem.

It is in thorough repair and furnished with accommodation for a family and stabling for four Horses.

For further particulars apply to Captain Shortt.

THIS DAY IS PUBLISHED
A REPRINT OF STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA BY THE RED SEA.

ADVOCATED in a letter to the Right Honourable Lord Viscount MELBOURNE, illustrated by plans of the Route and Charts of the principal Stations, by DIONYSIUS LARDNER, L. L. D, F. R. S.

Resolved—That it is expedient that measures should be immediately taken for the regular establishment of Steam Communication with India by the Red Sea.

Resolved,—That the net charge of the establishment should be divided equally between His Majesty's Government and the East India Company.

Report of Select Committee of the House of Commons, July, 1834.

Subscribers to the New Bengal Steam Fund, who may desire to be furnished with a copy, are requested to make known their wishes as early as possible to the Secretary to the Committee.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH ENGLAND.
Evidence before Select Committee of the House of Commons.

THE COMMITTEE OF THE NEW BENGAL STEAM FUND give notice that they daily expect to receive a Copy of the above, which they will reprint immediately on its arrival, if such appear to be the desire of the SUBSCRIBERS to the FUND or the PUBLIC in GENERAL.

If therefore they receive applications to the number of three hundred; for supply gratis to the Subscribers to the Fund—and for Rupees Six to Non-Subscribers; they will take that as a sufficient Indication of such desire and reprint accordingly.

They request intimation of the wishes of Individuals desiring Copies to be sent to the address of their Secretary as early as possible. Parties at Madras are requested to make known their wishes to John Barrow, Esq., the Agent of the Committee at that place.

The Committee having no Agent at Bombay, will be obliged by Parties at that Presidency, requiring a Copy of the Reprint, either addressing the Secretary to the Committee or any established Agent at Calcutta.

By order of the Committee of the Calcutta New Bengal Steam Fund,
C. B. GREENLAW,—*Secretary.*
9th September, 1837.

NOTICE.

STEAM COMMUNICATION
FROM
CALCUTTA, MADRAS AND CEYLON,
TO
ENGLAND.

THE Committee of the New Bengal Steam Fund are desirous of ascertaining the degree of support which may eventually be obtained throughout India to a well organized, properly estimated, Plan for establishing the above communication, in the event of the result of the inquiry in progress in June last, before a select Committee of the House of Commons, not leading to the Establishment of the desired Communication direct to the three Presidencies.

It is estimated at home that Capital would be required of £3,50,000, and the present object is merely to ascertain what portion of that Capital might be calculated upon, as likely to be forthcoming from India, on such a well organized and properly estimated plan being promulgated. It is proposed that the Capital be divided into 7,000 shares of £50 or Co.'s Rupees 500 each, to be payable 100 Rs. per Quarter till the whole is paid; that a Charter be obtained exempting all from liability beyond their share, and an act authorizing all who by the Indian acts are prevented from trading to become parties to this scheme.

As the immediate object is solely to ascertain the degree of support which a scheme based on sure Grounds would receive in India, it is scarcely necessary to enter into any present detail to show that such a scheme can be made to pay; especially as parties notifying their willingness to take shares will not in the most distant degree become pledged so to do, if the Scheme should be matured and promulgated, although their so doing will entitle them to priority of claim to shares if it should when promulgated become popular.

It may not however be irrelevant to state that Dr. Lardner, than whom no better authority can be given, considers that a well arranged steam communication between England and all the Ports of India would realize from passengers alone £196,000. However, as before said, no party will be bound by any present expressed intention of taking share, though priority of claim will be conferred thereby; and it being of essential consequence that the Committee should be enabled as early as possible to communicate to parties at home the degree of support which such a scheme would be likely to receive in India, they will feel much obliged by intimation being made to their Secretary by Individuals quoting the number of shares they might be disposed to take.

Parties now precluded by law from trading may of course, with reference to the condition referred to in their case, in like manner communicate their conditional desire.

As the time of departure would be arranged so as to form an intermediate despatch from India between the departure of the Hon'ble Company's Steamer from Bombay, it is not unlikely that a small Steamer may be established between Bombay and Socotra; thus not only affording additional means to that presidency of passage, but completing a regular mail every fortnight between India and England. Every part of India will then be equally interested in the communication, and it may fairly claim support from all.

Parties at Madras, desirous of putting their names down conditionally as above, are requested to communicate their wishes to John Barrow, Esq. the agent to the Committee.

The Committee having no Agent at Bombay, they will be obliged by communications being made to their Secretary, or to any House of Agency in Calcutta.

By order of the Committee of the
New Bengal Steam Fund
C. B. GREENLAW,
Secretary.
Town Hall, the 2nd Sept. 1837.

EDULJEE CURSETJEE'S SON'S, Will Sell by public Auction on Monday, the 16th instant and following day. at the *Albion Hotel*,—Sundry articles of household furniture, the property of the late Mrs. HART, deceased, consisting of Plate and Plated Ware Glass and Queens Ware, Tables, Chairs, Couches, Sideboards, large and small Bedsteads, two handsome Billiard Tables, with cues &c. a Pianoforte by *John Saife and Co.*—Hanging Lamps, Double and single Wallshades, Pictures, Mats, Cooking utensils,—a Quantity of Beer, Brandy, Port and Sherry and a variety of other articles.

At 12 O'Clock a Shigrampoe with a Horse and Harness, and a Barochet with a set of Harness,—Bombay 2nd October 1837.

LOST on the 28th ult., 2 half Tickets, in the Madras Lottery, Nos. 4246, and 4448, whoever will bring them to *Messrs. Pestonjee Bhiccajee, and Sons*, will be amply rewarded.

Notice has been given, to the Supt. of the Madras Lottery, to stop Payment of any prize which may be drawn on the above.

BAJONJEE FUCKEERJEE begs to acquaint his Friends and the public that he has just received a fresh Batch of superior high cast Arab Horses from Bussorah, by the Bugla belonging to *Hawjee Abdul Wabbe* and amongst them some promising ones for the Turf and likewise some Excellent chargers.—Bombay 2d October 1837.

EAST INDIA AGENCY IN LONDON FOR PASSENGERS, *No.*11, *Leadenhall street*. Parties arriving in England will, on immediate application to Mr. ALEXANDER, *East India Passage Agent, No* .11, *Leadenhall street* (*next door to the India House*), secure the most prompt and speedy attention in regard to the clearing and forwarding of their baggage; engaging furnished apartments in town to prevent the expense of resorting to hotels; procuring immediate return engagements for native servants, and in all other matters consequent on a first arrival in London.

☞ Publishing office of the "East India and Colonial Magazine, No. 11, Leadenhall street.—London, 25th Sept. 1836.

TO BE LET.—The two lower roomed adjoining Houses, at Colabah, opposite to *M. F. Brownrigg Esq.* Apply to *Pestonjee Mervanjee*, opposite to the Sally gate.—Bombay, 2nd October 1837.

MILITARY ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.

Major Davies, 15th Regt. N. I. from Poonah.
Lieut. W. Fullerton, 25th Regt. N. I. from Dapoolie.
Capt. Scott, 23d Regt. N. I. from Deckhan.
Assist. Surg. R. Kirk, 1st Regt. N. I. from Ahmednugger.

DEPARTURES.

Lieut Beebee, H. M. 6th Foot, to Deckan.
Capt. Le Messurier, 14th Regt. N. I. to Ahmedabad.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

DEATH.

Mr. Alexander Cooper aged 18 years Midshipmen of the Ship Mermaid was drowned by the upsetting of a boat in a sudden squall on the afternoon of the 1st instant, he was a young man of much promise and is regretted by all his shipmates.

SHIPPING ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.—None.

DEPARTURES.

Sept. 30th Arab Ship Nasratulshaw, Hajee Abdool to him, Naquedah, to Bushire.

SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

E. I. COMPANY'S VESSELS.—Brig Taptee, Cutter Nurbudda, Schooner Shannon, Surveying Brig, Palinurus, Sloop of War Elphinstone, Brig of War Euphrates, and Sloop of War Amherst.

STEAMERS.—Hugh Lindsay, and Berenice.

FREE TRADERS'—Blake, Logan, Tory, Sarah, Mermaid, Portsea, and Princess Charlottee.

COUNTRY VESSELS.—Tauze, Lord Castlereagh, Hamudee Kusrovie, Mahadimbu Shaw, Discovery, Futtay Salam, Eliza, Lady Grant, Susan, Hydroose, Golconda, Isavie, and Regia.

FRENCH.—Barque Anacreon, and Aimable Victoire.

HIS HIGHNESS THE NIZAM'S,—Barque Mecca, Piedmontese.

THE COURIER.

TUESDAY, 3d OCTOBER, 1837.

We regret extremely to hear that many midnight plunderings of houses by gangs of thieves have lately taken place, which seem to call for the vigilant interposition of the police. We will endeavour to procure the names of the different persons whose houses have lately received the thieving visitations of plunderers; at present we can only say we believe that the list is sufficiently extensive to awaken serious apprehensions for the safety of property. It has long been a matter of surprise to us that the streets of Bombay are permitted to be infested by the nondescript wretches, some singing, some juggling, some crawling and ape-ing wild beasts which are to be met with at almost every corner. We could point out one or two spots in which rest day or night is altogether out of the question from the feats of the sweepers, ballad singers, jugglers and others who have converted them into a sort of *sanctum* for the display of their day light sciences, to be succeeded by those of the pilferer and the thief as darkness urges them to change their characters.

The subject of roads has been attracting a considerable deal of attention on this side of India for the last several months, and we had hoped that the eagerness which was evinced here for increasing the facilities of internal communication would have been met with a corresponding zeal on the other side of the Peninsula. Envying us however the advantages of our geographical position, and wholly engrossed with their Comprehensive steam plans, they manifest but little identity of feeling with us on that most vital of all topics at present, an easy and expeditious land intercourse, and are occupying themselves with decrying the performances of our Steamers, as tending they think to make way for their and Dr. Lardner's comprehensive project. We have no doubt, that in a short time we shall witness an abatement of the feverish symptoms which are thus exclusively acting on the nerves of our Calcutta and Madras friends, and that they will join us heartily in our wishes and efforts for diminishing the distance between them and us. In the mean time we shall employ ourselves with shewing what has been effected in this Presidency for the purpose of extending its means of internal communication. We had no idea, until we had before us a report on the subject, that so much zeal had been evinced, so much laudable anxiety manifested for improving this Presidency and opening routes for merchandize and traffic, as has been evidenced during the time Sir Robert Grant has had the helm of affairs in this most important political division of our Indian Empire. We cannot withhold from him the just tribute of praise for the continued anxiety which he has shown to suggest and seize upon every practicable proposal, and to lend his powerful aid in recommending any project or scheme, by which one part of the country may be made accessible to the other. We have the perfect assurance, that the efforts of our Excellent Governor, to increase our means of intercourse, to create passages through the almost impracticable Ghâts, have never relaxed since he first put his foot on the soil of India; and that if more has not been effected that this is owing solely to the deficiency of the means at his disposal and to the necessity of deferring to the opinions of others on any considerable undertaking.

If we cannot regard the routes which have yet been formed in any other light than a beginning, yet considering the vastness of the huge territory through which they trend their way, the commencement is a good one and promises largely from the results of increased and continued exertion. It is a great satisfaction to us that the planning and constructing of the different roads and new lines are under the guidance and active superintendence of so able an officer as Captain Foster, of whom all that we have yet seen speaks loudly in favor, and of the talent and enterprize with which a project once in prospectus is ushered by him to its termination. Nor should we be evincing a proper deference to a Gentleman of tried merit and experience if we were slow to acknowledge, how much the public is the debtor to Mr. Williamson the Revenue Commissioner at Poonah for his indefatigible exertions in prosecuting the welfare of the country and increasing it's ways of intercourse. During the last fair season 57 miles of new road have been finished, and 100 miles of old road, which had been previously neglected, put into good order; thereby increasing and facilitating the passage into different parts of the country by 150 miles. Upon the same and other lines of road 7 bridges have been constructed and 65 stone and brick drains carried through, and the mountains have been opened in three different places, three Ghâts having been rendered practicable. It must be obvious that these works alone involve a large portion of labour, but much more would still have been effected had different bodies of convicts, by whose labour much of the work has been conducted, been brought earlier to the scene of operations. In one or two instances large bodies of these men were delayed until the monsoon had set in, so that little else could be effected than hutting them on the spot, ready to commence operations on the breaking of the unfavorable weather. Two thousand men are now at Tanna and Trombay working upon the *Causeway* and *Bunder* at those places. The former of these undertakings, when completed will be of great importance as facilitating the intercourse with the mainland during the prevalence of bad weather, which is attended frequently with so much danger in crossing the harbour pending any strong burst of the monsoon. In order to make our observations better understood it should be stated, that during the season preceding the last, surveys of no less than 389 miles of projected road were laid before his Excellency, of which the local Government immediately determined to carry into effect 57 miles or thereabouts; the rest were to be referred for the consideration of the Home authorities. These 57 miles, which have been since completed as before stated, are divided into two parts; the first extending 39¾ miles is a portion of the great northern road and leading from *Nassick to Chandore*; and the other measuring 17¼ extends from the salt pans of *Penn* in the Northern Concan to the bottom of the Bhore Ghât. This as we have said before has been effected over *new ground*; but considerable has also been done in the way of *completion*. Eight miles of the road from Seroor to Nuggur including the cutting of a difficult ghât, which has been effected in an admirable manner, and three miles also of the Nagotana and Mhar Road, together with a new street in the Town of Panwell have been perfected. The first of these works, that between Nuggur and Seroor has been finished by the labour of the convicts and the latter by free labour. Three miles also of the line from Chowk to Cullian have also been perfected, making with the preceeding no inconsiderable quantity of cutting and working, and exclusive of the 57 miles of entirely new line of which we have before spoken.

All these roads have been laid out in a sound and stable manner, *moorum* having been the ingredient used in their formation, while in all necessary places side drains have been constructed. Much difficulty had been hitherto experienced in carrying roads over black soil, but the *moorum* seems admirably adapted for the purpose and, as far as can be judged from the effects of the last monsoon upon it, has exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the engineering department. Our space of to day does not admit us to enlarge further but we shall do so in our next number.

CALCUTTA.

CALCUTTA COURIER,—SEPT. 18.

The Comprehensive Steam Prospectus mustered on Saturday evening 106 names of Subscribers of 815 Shares. A very good beginning, and the names (which will be found in our first page) are a goodly show of Calcutta support, not altogether confined to the Mercantile Community. The Madras *Spectator* has a well written article upon the present state of this important question, which we have much pleasure in offering to the notice of our readers. It is gratifying to see the common cause so ably supported at the sister presidency, and the absurd imputations of selfishness which had been senselessly thrown out against Calcutta, because she demanded to be admitted to the full benefits af a measure intended for the general good, so generously repudiated by an impartial writer at a distance, and properly thrown back upon the narrow-minded inventors of a calumny intended only to cover their own selfish views.

BENGAL HURKURU,—SEPT. 18.

We are much gratified to learn that the proposal for promoting a well digested plan for the establishment of Steam Communication with England, has already attracted so much attention, and excited so warm an interest, that in the very short space of time between its publication on Saturday evening, it has obtained the subscriptions of no less than 103 firms, and individuals, taking collectively to the amount of 815 shares. This is good augury —what is well begun, says the proverb, is half accomplished. We shall report further progress in a day or two.

DELHI.

DELHI GAZETTE—SEPTEMBER, 20.

Letters from the Westward have enabled us to furnish our readers with the following particulars of a brush, in which Major Forster and the Shekawattee Brigade have figured most creditably. It is, for the sake of courtesy and deference to the sex, to be lamented that all our martial movements are, in these degenerate days, directed soleiy *against* the fair!

In consequence of the minority of the young Rajah, Pertab Sing, Majee Thakoranee, the mother of the young, Prince, is the temporal Regent, and has her Court and Kamdars in the usual style, but the unprincipled conduct of these worthies, (her advisers) was well known, and certain arrangements were made by the British Authorities previous to their quitting Shekawattee, by which the Jeypoor State was made answerable for the future good Government of these petty states, as being dependent principalities of that Raj: the old plundering Kamdars here took umbrage at this, as infringing their right and privilege to choose whom *they pleased*, whilst those, placed in authority by the Jeypoor Government, and with the concurrence of ours, were ejected;—in this state of things the Majee sided with the faction and collected together a vast number of her adherents, and garrisoned the Fort, (which is strong) with 400 match-locks, relying upon her resources and strength, which had always before defied the Jeypoor power; under these circumstances, Major Forster received orders on the 2d instant to proceed from Jeypoor with a part of his Brigade to Seekur, and endeavour to settle the existing differences; when he arrived there, he found the gates of the Town shut, and every preparation made for a defence; carefully noticing every thing, he clearly saw, that without battering guns so strong a Fort could not be taken, excepting by a coup de main, he therefore resolved first to endeavour to obtain an audience of the Majee in the hope of being able to make her listen to reason and obviate, if possible, a recourse to arms; after two days' demur, an interview was granted, but without the desired effect, although he was six hours in Durbar; at length, when Major F. got up to take his leave, and warned the Chiefs of the consequences that awaited them, the Majee reluctantly agreed to the wholesome advice offered to her. Major F. demanded, that the armed men should be all turned out of the Fort, excepting the old, usual personal guards; after much ado, she complied with this requisition also; however, when this intimation was made known to the parties, they instantly became clamorous for immediate payment of their dues, and as it was impossible to be given then, and they would listen to no reason, Major F. was compelled to draw up his Company and prepare to drive them out *vi et armis*. At this moment, a 4-pounder gun, with half a Company, and some Sawars, very opportunely arrived; this decided the business, and the Fort was evacuated forthwith; Major F. then took leave of the Majee, placing a strong guard of his men at the principal gateways. In the middle of the night, however, it was reported to the Major, that nearly the whole of the armed men, who had been ejected during the previous day, had found their way back into the Fort. through some secret passage; this, the two principal disaffected vagabonds, Hunwunt Ram and Daloo, (admirers of the Majee) had effected; there was no time now to be lost in adopting immediate measures to prevent further mischief, as by this time the whole of the Seekur guns were ordered into the Fort: Major F. forthwith turned out the line, sending detachments to the different gates of the Town, where the guns were, to seize them, whilst himself, with 2 Companies, and a gun (4 pounder) and some Sawars, proceeded direct to the Mahal in the Fort, the gate way of which had been secured the day before; on his arrival he found every thing indicating a determination for a fight, the doors barricaded, match locks at all the loop holes, and the top of the Palace covered with armed men, well protected by parapets, whilst the troops below, with him, could find but little shelter: having summoned the people to surrender, and after 2 hours parley getting nothing but gross abuse and defiance, Major F. directed a fire to be opened on the principal group, and in a moment its effects became obvious, though the match locks were discharged at the party below very sharply, yet it being quite dark the injury done by the enemy was comparatively slight; the Major now prepared to blow open the principal Barricade and enter the Palace, the Majee's party seeing this, and having already suffered considerably in killed and wounded, called for quarter; and agreed to deliver up the two instigators, Hunwunt Ram and Daloo, and surrender the Palace to Major Forster, which was forthwith done, and thus tranquillity was once more established. The several detachments, both horse and foot, of the Shekawattee Brigade, behaved in the steadiest manner; the simultaneous movements to seize the guns (9 in number) and to secure a party of 50 *Horse*, placed by the disaffected clan to aid them, were gallantly performed, the [illegible] all surprised, and taken whilst preparing to join the Majee's party in the Fort; and the whole of this was performed with only the loss of 7 men of the Shekawattee Brigade. All is tranquil now, and it is to be hoped will continue so for some time to come, after the lesson they have had. The Fort and Town at present are in the occupation of Major Forster's troops, and will remain so until every thing is firmly settled.

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

PLAN FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF DEBATE AND DISPATCH OF PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Various plans have been proposed for the better dispatch of the business of the country in the House of Commons. Much of the public time is wasted by worthy Members who insist on making speeches on all occasions though no one listens to them. The consequence, besides the delay of the business in hand, is much irritation to the neglected orators, whose eloquence is delivered amidst the buz of conversation, the coughing, scraping of feet, and other signs of inattention or impatience. We are the very last persons who would propose any check to the freedom of discussion, but we think it will be admitted that, if an arrangement can be made at once giving an undisturbed, tranquil opportunity of speech to the worthy Members alluded to, and saving the time, the temper, and patience of the House, a great object will be accomplished. For these two purposes our proposal is that a certain class of members, irreverently called the Bores, shall deliver their speeches in private rooms, where attended by a reporter only, they may spout away unabashed by the signs of inattention or disgust, and without danger even of contradiction. When one of these worthies rises it should be competent to any Member to move that he should be committed to custody in a private room till he should have run himself out, and such motion being supported by a majority, the bore should be accordingly removed, and shut up for speech. As a general custom, a reporter should be allowed to the speaker in a private room; but there are cases that we need not instance in which the House would best consult its credit by refusing to permit the presence of a reporter, and ordering the solitary confinement of the speaker till he should have eased himself of the perilous stuff. The humanity and the convenience of this arrangement will be at once recognized. All the mortifications which now await tedious, disagreeable speakers, will be avoided, and a dozen of them may at the same time be spouting away, without offence to any one but the hapless reporters, in the private rooms. As soon as they had reduced themselves to silence, the Serjeant-at-Arms should report them safe and fit company for the House. How much preferable would this be to the waste of time in the harrangues of bore after bore, another, and another, and another? By our mode all the fountains of dulness would be spouting away in their respective basins at the same time, and the House proceeding with its business meanwhile.

To the reporters may safely be entrusted the discretion of giving what they think necessary of the speeches in private; and the orators themselves would be able, without any fear of cavil or contradiction, to boast of their eloquence and the irresistible force of the arguments.

Other advantages of secret speaking will occur to all experienced in public life, and too well acquainted with the afflictions of the Bores.

We only see the probability of one hitch in our scheme, and that is, a misgiving that the reporters would not consent to the hardship of attending to the speeches in the private rooms, but every Bore in such a case would have to bring with him his own bearer, upon such terms as the requisite stock of patience could be purchased for. We should see in the newspapers advertisements of "Wanted "a hearer and reporter of superior patience, and warranted "not to yawn. One would be preferred who has been ac- "customed to interpret for the dumb, or who, at the least, "is used to stammering. An additional premium would "be given to any one who has served in the required ca- "pacity to Mr. R.——ds, or Mr. R.——n, Mr. P. B., or "Col. S." —*Examiner*.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA —1837.

(*Continued from last Saturday's Courier.*)

JOVIS, 22 DI JUNII, 1837.

Members present.

Mr. Bagshaw. | Sir J. Hobhouse, Bart.
Lord W. Bentinck. | Mr. Mullins.
Mr. Crawford, | Lord Sandon,
Mr. Gordon, | Sir T. Tonbridge, Bart.
Sir J. Graham, Bart.

LORD WILLIAM BENTINCK, IN THE CHAIR.

Sir *David Dunn* called in and examined.

252. *Chairman.*) How long have you been post-captain in His Majesty's navy?—Going on 24 years.

253. When, and how long were you upon the Indian station?—About three years.

254, At what period?—From April 1832 to April 1835; I speak of being also lately in India; at Trincomalee during the time I have mentioned.

255, You are, of course, acquainted with the Bay of Bengal and the shore?—I was voyaging there the whole of the time.

256. Would there be any difficulty in a steamer making the passage from the Hooghley to Madras and Point de Galle in the south-west monsoon?—I should say none, judging of the power of steam in Europe, not of Indian steamers.

257. How would you make that passage!—I should say from the light-vessel to Point Palmyras, and from thence along the shore on to Madras, as close to the shore as possible.

258. Is there no difficulty between the * light vessel and Point Palmyras during the south-west monsoon?—I sould say that the tug of the vessel would rest in making that passage of 60 or 80 miles, but I should not fear any steam-boat such as is navigated in Europe in not making it, particularly as she would not bow the sea; she would be on the larboard tack, perhaps fore and aft sails drawn.

259. Does the south monsoon blow home on the Coromandel coast?—Certainly not; across the Candy heads it blows, because there is no high land there.

260. From the Point Palmyras to Madras the south west monsoon does not blow home!—It does not; I have anchored in all parts of the coast in the height of the south west monsoon.

261. From Madras to Point de Galle would be the same would it?—Smoother, decidedly smoother, for the south-west wind would be blowing off Point de Galle and Ceylon.

262. Then the south-west monsoon in the Bay of Bengal opposes no obstacle whatever?—None to a steamer; I judge by the steamers in Europe, not by the steamers in India.

263. How many knots an hour do you suppose that a powerful steamer, like the Berenice, of 240 horse, and 700 tons, would be going this course in the south-west monsoon!—At starting from the light-vessel to Palmyras, I should say four or five knots an hour for that distance, whatever it is, 80 miles, I believe; from Palmyras to Madras I should say 6; from Madras to Point de Galle seven or eight; under the lee of Ceylon smooth water.

264. Are there not occasionally† gales of wind on that coast that do blow home?—The monsoon gales, that is the periodical storms at the change of the monsoon, blow home most furiously, but they do not last more than 30 or 48 hours at the utmost.

265. Lord *Sandon.*] Those so periodical that can be aware of them before[illegible]d, and avoid them invariably, by the [illegible]

266. So that [illegible] need be exposed to them?—None; you may know them three or four days before they come; the barometer does not act quickly there generally, but on those storms invariably.

267. (Sir *J. Graham.*] Are there harbours into which the Berenice could put between Madras and Point de Galle, and between Madras and Palmyras?—Between Madras and Point de Galle, Trincomalee; between Madras and Palmyras, none.

268 If she were caught in one of those monsoons which do blow home, would her fate be inevitable?—By making an offing of 100 miles, as we do under canvas, we find the wind very much less than towards the shore, and I should apprehend no danger by her lying-to; she must not attempt to proceed.

269. If she were caught close in, what must she do?—By the previous warning the barometer would give, if she were on the coast she ought to make an offing.

270. Her safety would depend upon her offing being secured before it blew hard?—I should say so; but the barometer invariably acts; we leave the roads under canvas, and ride the gale out by lying-to a 100 or 120 miles out.

271. *Chairman.*] Is there any instance of a man-of-war having been lost in one of those gales?—I believe the the Dover, commanded by Sir Edward Tucker, was stranded there in a monsoon gale at the period of the expedition to Java.

272. In the north east monsoon, is there any difficulty whatever in the Bay of Bengal?—None whatever.

273. It is a still monsoon in comparison with the south-west, is it?—The power of the wind is by no means so strong as the south-west.

272. How many knots could you go against the north-east monsoon?—I should say, averaging six or seven.

275. Are you acquainted with the harbour of Point de Galle?—No, I am not.

276. Do you know anything respecting it from report; you must have heard from the officers of the navy, whether steamers could make use of it as a port?—I have always understood that it was admirably adapted for steamers.

277.—For the repair of steamers, would not Trincomalee afford every sort of convenience and advantage?—I should say, decidedly.

278. Is there a king's dock-yard there?—There are ample means if artificers are sent; the accommodation is ample.

279. Mr. *Crawford.*] Do you happen to know why artificers are not kept there?—Owing to the foreign dock-yards being reduced to certain establishments and that among the rest.

280. Have you ever heard it attributed to the unhealthiness of Trincomalee?—Never; and of late years Trincomalee has decidedly improved in that respect.

281. From what cause?—They have opened a road from the Candian country to Trincomalee, and the jungle immediately adjoining Trincomalee has been cleared away very extensively, and has added much to the healthiness of the place.

282. Is there a rising and falling tide there?—About three feet, not more than three feet.

283. *Chairman.*] What is your opinion of the practicability of making the passage from Point de Galle to Socotra, in the southwest monsoon?—I should say in the

* As noted in the remarks on the evidence of Capt Nairne the Pilot Vessels cross continually as a matter of course. There could not be any difficulty in a Steamer [illegible]ing it; but instead of making for Point Palmyras a steamer would go for False Point.—C. B. G.

† Gales of precisely the same character occur off the Malabar coast; the objections arising from them therefore apply equally to Bombay'C. —B. G.

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th of the south-west monsoon there might be a diffi- in rounding* Point de Galle by keeping in the cur- but, perhaps, by going inside the Bassas, the passage t be made even in the teeth of the south-west mon- the Bassas, are the shoals that lie off, but the rush ht from the Malabar coast in coming into Bengal avoided.

Sir *J. Graham.*]† How many knots does that —I have experienced from two to three and a half; I heard it stated more, but have myself experienced

285. Does it vary, or is it uniform?—In the height of south-west monsoon it is steady for six weeks or two ths in the fury of the monsoon, but it falls off rapidly changes prior to the change of the north-east monsoon the event of not being able to force a passage close in Point de Galle, the difficulty, in my mind, can be ob- ted by making an offing on the starboard tack of 100 or miles to a low northern latitude, and then going on larboard tack with canvas set, I should conceive, steer- for Socotra. Socotra I have never been at; I have personal experience with Socotra.

286. Mr. *Crawford*] Do. I understand you as sup- ing such weather as would render the calling of the eamer at Point de Galle impracticable?—Not of calling, ut of sounding Point de Galle. In the event of the cur- ent being t o strong for that six weeks or two months (for do not think that it is longer than that, in that case I re- commend the going under canvas on the starboard tack, nd making an offing 100 or 150 miles, and so keep out f the current with a regular sea, not a chopping sea, and you would fetch Socotra even if your machinery broke, I conceive.

287. Lord *Sandon.*] Should you go to the south the Maldives?—Yes. perhaps south; as I drew off rom Point de Galle, and the wind migl.t drive to the outhward, I would lie south-east or south-south-east, and when I had made offing and the wind had headed me, I conceive that I might weather the Maldives; I would set on for Socotra under canvas and Steam. I have no per- sonal experience of being at Socotra; my experience is entirely confined to the Malabar coast.

288. Sir *J. Graham.*] Have you much experience of he sea to the westward of Point de Galle?—I have cross- ed that about six times.

289. How far to the northward have you been towards the Persian Gulf?—In coming from Batavia to Bombay, through the Straits of Bancas, I rounded Point de Galle about 120 or perhaps 150 miles.

290. Do you think in Europe we have any experience of steam navigation of such length and such difficulty, con- sidering the strength of the currents, as the passage be- tween Socotra and Trincomalee, rounding Point de Galle? —Yes; I conceive the passage from Falmouth to Gibral- tar, in the winter months, to be quite equal to that pas- sage.

291. Bearing in your mind the currents of the mon- soon and the sea, such as you have seen it?—The cur- rents can be avoided, by making the offing that I speak of.

292 Do you think the whole passage across the bay from Falmouth to Gibraltar is formidable?—Quite; I have no personal experience of those long voyages, but from what I have seen in winter passages, in steamers of 160 horse power, I should say quite.

293. The distance is greater, is it not, from Socotra to Trincomalee groundin the Maldives in the way you recom- mend, than from Falmouth to Gibraltar?—I should say greater, certainly.

294. With regard to the sea?—The sea is not equal, in my mind, to what is encountered in the winter in the y of Biscay, and off the coast of Portugal round Cape Vincent, and on to Gibraltar.

295. Did you encounter any bad weather in those six yages [illegible] yourself [illegible] ose seas [illegible] t is all [illegible] south-west m[illegible] s blew over, a calm[illegible] ime.

296. [illegible] an seas you have seen many gales: in the [illegible] in India, do you consider that you saw heav[illegible] ther or not?—I conceive that the passage from Falmouth to Gibraltar in the wintry weather is far more severe than any weather I ever experienced in India in the south-west monsoon.

297. Lord *Sandon.*] Were all those six voyages in the south-west monsoon?—No, two of them.

298. Sir J. *Graham.*] Was it ordinary weather in those cases?—Double-reefed topsail weather.

299 You have seen something more formidable than that in the European seas?—A great deal.

300. Have you reason to believe that there is never any thing more formidable than what you encountered in those six voyages?—I have heard of it being more severe, but I have rarely been in weather in India more than tre- ble-reefed topsails.

301. And the information which you have received from your brother officers leads you to believe that that is rarely experienced?—What I have experienced is double and treble reefed; I have heard of close reefed, but I have never experienced that excepting once.

202. Your information and experience would lead you to believe that the worst weather in the Indian seas is not so bad as the winter gales prevalent in the Bay of Biscay?—Certainly.

303. That is the result both of your experience and inquiry of your brother officers?—That is the conviction of my mind from what I have heard.

304. Sir *J. Hobhouse.*] Nor the navigation in other respects of the Indian seas more difficult?—By no means so difficult,

305. *Chairman.*] In going to the southward, the dis- tance where you would encounter bad weather, and a strong current, is confined to that 100 or 150 miles. is it not?—I confine my observations as to the strength of the current and the power of the wind in the south-west mon- soon to the distance of 100 or 150 miles from the Bassas. [illegible] an hour should you go those 150 miles with a steamer such as the Berenice? Going on the starboard tack under canvas and steam, I should say 10 the 100 or 150 miles, she would average

307 Then, what course would you take when you had got 150 miles?—I would then go on the larboard tack, under steam and canvas, as near as she would lie to the wind, taking it for granted the wind would be to the south ward; south-west, perhaps south-south west at that dis- tance from the land.

308. How many knots an hour should you make then?—I should say, averaging six or seven.

309. If your machinery broke could you make a sail- ing passage of it?—I should think the passage might be effected under canvas in the event of the machinery break- ing.

310, Sir *T. Troubridge*] Always speaking of Soco- tra?—I have no personal knowledge of Socotra.

311. Mr. *Crawford*] Do you still consider that you should not have occasion to go to the south of the Line? you said that I should have no occasion to go the south- ward of the Line to effect my passage; I might pass to the southward, but if not, the passage is between the islands, and smooth water the whole of the way; for in the event of not passing to the southward of the Maldives, I should say the eight degree channel.

312. Lord *Sandon.*] The Maldives giving you a shel- ter from the violence of the monsoon?—Yes.

313. *Chairman.*] How many knots an hour could

* The difficulty *if any* is rather in rounding Dondra Head and passing thence to Galle Harbour.—C. B. G.

† For this current see the note on the evidence of Capt. Nairne. Mr. Twynam says it frequently sets to windward for several days to gether.—C. B. G.

you go making a direct passage?—Going in the teeth of the south-west monsoon, I should shape my course for the eight degree channel, Maldives and Laccadives, and I think under steam I could make * three or four miles an hour against wind and current.

314. Sir *J. Graham.*] What European experience leads you to think that any steamer you have seen could make three knots an hour against the wind you have seen, and the current you have described;—I judge from a steam- mer from Londonderry to Liverpool of 160 horse power; from what I have seen, I judge that a vessel of 200 or 250 horse power would do that.

315. The experience here is only against wind; have you any experience of a steamer against current combin- ed with wind still making head at the rate of three knots an hour?—By passing close to the land at Point de Galle, I conceive that the power of the current would be neutra- lized, and consequently, that there would be merely the wind to encounter.

316. When you describe the current as running two or three miles an hour, that is outside the Bassas, and not inside?—Outside the Bassas.

317. Is there a current in the inside channel?—I should say much less than outside the Bassas.

318. What would you put that current at inside at the height of the monsoon?—Perhaps two miles an hour.

319. Have we European experience of such a current with such a wind as the monsoon, and any steamer mak- ing head at the rate of three or four knots an hour against it?—The power of the monsoon, such as I have expe- rienced, being from double-reefed topsail to treble reefed topsails, and the current reduced two knots an hour, I conceive that the steamer that I have had experience in would make a successful passage.

320. *Chairman.*] How many knots an hour, did you say?—Three knots.

322. You are going through the eight-degree channel, are you not?—Yes; no sailing ship ever passes withinside of the Bassas that I know of.

323. If the point of destination were Point de Galle? —In that case the Bassas would be out of the question.

324. Sir *J. Hobhouse.*] Have you had much expe- rience in steam navigation; have you been very often on board steam vessels?—Twelve or fourteen voyages.

325. Sir *J. Graham*] In what seas?—From Liverpool to Dublin; from Liverpool to Belfast; from Liverpool to Londonderry; at all seasons.

326. You have no experience except in the narrow seas round England? None.

327. Sir *T. Troubridge.*] Have you made the passage of the eight or nine-degree channel from Point de Galle? —No

328. Sir *J. Graham.*] Have you experience to the west- ward of the Maldives and the Laccadives?—No.

329 Mr. *Mullins.*] Have you sufficient experience of the effects of the south-west monsoon to enable you to judge of its effects in the passage between Socotra and Point de Galle?—I confine my experience to 100 miles from Point de Galle, in the south-west monsoon.

330. Sir *J. Graham*] Then as to the monsoon between Socotra and the Maldives, and Laccadives, you have no personal experience whatever?—None whatever, of my own knowledge.

331. *Chairman*] In what direction, by compass, is that 100 miles, that you would go in rounding Point de Galle? —I should say, from south-west to west-south-west.

332. Was that in the south-west monsoon?—Yes.

333. Mr. *Mullins.*] Did you ever understand whether the south west monsoon blows with greater force, within 100 or 150 miles of the Malabar coast than at a greater dis- tance from it?—I have never considered the strength of the south-west monsoon to be so great from 150 to 100 miles off the Malabar coast.

334. Mr. *Bagshaw.*] So that the same rule would go- vern a vessel going to Socotra as to Bombay with regard to the monsoon; the monsoon blows steadily from the south-west?—Always.

335. Therefore you would have no objection to navi- gate a vessel with the experience you possess, from Point de Galle to Socotra?—None whatever.

336. Sir *J. Graham.*] A sailing-vessel, none?—I con- fine my observations to a sailing vessel; I have no experi- ence of steam, except as a passenger.

337. Mr. *Mullins.*] In fact, you have been in that part of the sea where the south-west monsoon blows with the strongest force, or is generally supposed to blow with the strongest force?—Yes.

338. *Chairman.*] Going direct from the south-west channel to Socotra, could you carry sail?—I should say not.

339 Is the wind as unfavourable that way as it is from Socotra to Bombay? to Socotra, I should say the wind was immediately in our face; and from Galle to Socotra, I should think the wind would be three or four points on the larboard bow, merely judging from the south-west monsoon blowing, and the number of hundred miles between Bom- bay and Point de Galle.

340. What difference do you think those three or four points of the compass would give you over the vessel that had the wind dead on end?—I should say two miles an hour at least.

341. Do you think the passage could be made from Bombay to Socotra with the wind dead on end, in the south-west monsoon, in a steamer like the *Berenice*?—I should think the distance too great for a steamer to make that voyage in the face of the south west monsoon, but the impression on my mind is, that a steamer can always make an offing from Bombay harbour at any time of the mon- soon.

342. Sir *J. Graham.*] By bearing to the southward?— I mean, making the distance of 60 or 80 miles, by shaping her course along the Malabar coast.

343. To the southward?—To the southward.

344. *Chairman.*] Why do you say the distance would be too great?—I think the distance is 1,200 miles, or a- bout that; the quantity of coal required for that voyage, I should imagine, would be too much for any steamer that I have any knowledge of.

345, How many knots an hour do you suppose that she would be able to go with the wind dead on end?—My knowledge of the southwest monsoon is confined to within 100 miles of the Malabar coast: I should say that she would make that distance two and a half and three miles an hour, perhaps more.

346. Would the force of the monsoon increase or de- crease as you go to the westward?—Decrease; I confine my observation to the fury of the south-west gale; in get- ting out of Bombay harbour we invariably find the force of the wind lessen as we get out, and to pass down the Malabar coast we have the wind abeam rarely before.

347. If an accident happened to her machinery she would, of course, be obliged to go back to Bombay?— As a matter of course there is no alternative.

348 Supposing the fury of the south-west monsoon to prevent her from making the direct passage, even in case she was obliged to make an offing to the southward, when she took her course again for Socotra, would she be in as favourable a position as a steamer going through the eight degree channel; would she have as many points of the wind in her favour?—I conceive that a steamer making a voyage from Bombay to the southward on the Malabar coast, would fetch to the westward of the Maldives and Laccadives, and consequently, would be on a par with the Point de Galle steamer passing through that.

349. You mean that she would fall into the same track? Yes, meet to the westward of the Maldives and the Lacca- dives.

350. Then the distance that each would have to run would be about the same, would it?—I conceive that the distance from Bombay to the westward of the Maldives and Laccadives would be greater than the distance that the steamer going through the eight degree channel meeting there at that point would have to run.

351. Has not the moon an effect on the wind under the Line?—In the full and change of the moon we find the south-west monsoon very squally; even in the quartering of the moon we find it always unsettled.

352. Sir *T. Troubridge.*] What notice does baro- meter give you on the east coast of Ceylon of an approach- ing gale?—I have known three or four days' notice but generally two.

353. That is to say, by continued falling?—Yes; Sir John Gore ordered me to proceed on board and take com- mand of the squadron, in the event of the barometer falling there, and that was two or three days prior to the blow- ing.

354. *Mr. Bagshaw.*] In this long distance between Point de Galle and Socotra, going the course that you re- commend, would you steam the whole of that long dis- tance?—I take it for granted that the fore and aft sails would draw, perhaps during the whole passage; but my experience is confined to 100 miles of Point de Galle.

355. Mr. *Mullins.* Should you think that it would be advisable to employ steamers between Calcutta and Suez of a less tonnage than 1,000 tons, or of less horse power than 250 horse power?—I should say the larger steamer the better, judging from the first class steamers of this coun- try.

356. You think that they could make better head-way in the case of the south-west monsoon blowing with its greatest force, than smaller steam vessels?—Certainly.

357. Mr. *Crawford*] In consequence of the greater power?—They are more steady in consequence of the wind a head.

358. Sir *J. Hobhouse.*] Then it is your decided opini- on that a steamer would not be able to carry coals to enable her to go direct from Bombay to Socotra, from what you have seen of steamers?—From what I have seen, I should fear that she could not go that distance.

* The *Forbes* left Galle on the 24th September drawing twelve feet six inches, her fair load draft does not exceed 9 feet. She had a deep laden bluff bowed Collier in tow, and she went direct in the teeth of the wind with a high Sea, and against a strong easterly current, 480 miles in seven days through the eight degree Channel towing the Collier the whole way.—C. B. G.

THE WORLD WE LIVE IN.

One of the old amusements of those wits who travel by stage-coaches about Christmas has been to change the directions, on the packets of town and country presents, which then load the coaches. Thus the citizen who ex- pects a turkey and chine from his retired partner in Nor- folk, is surprised by a salmon, while the partner, specu- lating on a barrel of oysters, is surprised by a shoulder of mutton. The trick is established, and the astonishment is a matter of course. But a rather more complicated ca- lamity of this order lately threw a whole French province into consternation. A landholder, about to give his daugh- ter in marriage, and determined to signalize the event by unusual hospitality, had invited a large party to dine on a wild boar from the Ardennes. The boar was duly sent, but accompanied by a roebuck. This was more than he had required; but, taking it for granted that his friend in the forest meant it for him, he had it cut up, and sent in pieces all round the province to his friends.

However, within a few days he received a note from the mayor of a neighbouring town, claiming the roebuck, which had been ordered for *him*, also for a marriage din- ner. Here was a dilemma enough to have exasperated any Frenchman in existence out of his senses. After va- rious consultations, his only resource was to beg of those to whom the dismembered buck had been sent, to return their respective portions, that he might return them to the mayor. But here a new difficulty arose. His friends had been as hospitable as himself. Venison from the Ardennes is not among every-day things, and the arrival of every fragment of the buck had been the signal for in- vitations to share it for fifty miles round. The circle of consultation extended with the difficulty. The question was whether it were better to disappoint the mayor, or dis- appoint some hundreds of gay men and maidens who had already made up their minds to dine on venison, and dance and drink *punch á la romaine* after it till daylight. But the mayor grew importunate, his dinner would be nothing without the buck. In the mean while time, the element always most important and most disregarded in negotiations, passed away. The mayor at length obtained his ultimatum, and the property was ordered to be sur- rendered. Unfortunately the feasts had been held, the quadrilles danced, and every practicle of the haunch had been eaten up *the day before*.—

If the Ministers have not the talents of their Whig pre- decessors of old, they at least have all the tricks. Whenever they are likely to be pushed hard, they threaten to resign, and to resign on a particular day. The present favourite is the 21st. The object of this manœuvre is to *stimulate*. In every party there are lazy adherents who are perfectly content to see their work done by others, live in a willing oblivion of every day but quarter-day, and practise their only dexterity in sliding away from a long sitting to a good supper, or leaving all the cares of debatess and divisions to fate, and take the wholesale measures of adjourning to the horse-race or the *battue* a hundred miles off. But, though undelighted with legislation, they have an authen- tic love of place, and the sound most calculated to stir up all their well-fed energies would be the crash of falling ministry. The menace itself is of course desperate—it is the hoisting of the black flag on the pirate, the outcry on the scaffold—but it has often been effectual, and where every thing must be hazarded, the waste of a trick addi- tional amounts to no sacrifice whatever. But the fact at length is, that they have exhausted even this masterpiece —that the political *sonter la coupe* has been tried too remorselessly, and that their chief consideration now is evidently directed to the easiest kind of *fall*. Nothing can be more unquestionable than that their existence for the last year has depended on "his Majesty's Opposition," and that Sir Robert Peel's holding up his finger would be their death-sign. Whether that distinguished person means to do this part of his duty to the country, is in his own breast; but we are glad to see symptoms that he thinks the game legitimately drawing to a close. In a capital speech on the Irish Municipal Bill (April 11), after tearing that equally absurd and dangerous project into a thousand pieces, he thus gave the history of the Cabinet: —"Let them look at the situation of our foreign affairs— (Lord Palmerston smiled). He was glad to see a smile on the noble Lord's countenance. The noble Lord had a right to smile when he looked at the position of the country with respect to the great powers; to Russia, for instance—(cheers); to France, and every power with which England was interested—(great cheering). Let them look at our commercial embarrassments—at the state of our manufacturing employment. But, above all, let them look at the condition of all the governments of the west of Europe. In France no government existing; in Spain no government existing; in England a doubt existing from day to day whether there was a government or not—(loud and long-continued cheers). Let them look at the state of our domestic questions; hundreds of the most important coming on them day by day, but scarcely one advanced. Let them look at the state of their colonial affairs."—(Loud cheering.)

But we come to the more pregnant paragraph. "The country," said Sir Robert, "could not believe that any man from that side of the House would seek office under any other motives than those of public duty. But I do not hesitate to say, that if the present Cabinet should make this state of affairs a pretext for abandoning office, and thus escaping from the difficulties with which they were surrounded, then he did not hesitate to say that he believed there was spirit and energy enough in the country to find *compensation for their loss*—(long and loud cheers). And if the crew should abandon the noble vessel among the breakers, he did not believe that shipwreck was *inevitable*." (Great cheering from all parts of the House). —*Blackwood's Mag.*

LIEUTENANT JACK RICKETTS AND THE WIDOW.

(Concluded from last Saturday's Courier.)

CHAPTER. III.

The bell that had frighened Augustus from his pro- priety, was rung by Mrs. Linlayson. A very few minutes served to put the two friends in full career of gossip. Mutual enquiries, mutual revelations, and all prelimi- naries being satisfactory adjusted, the ambassador from poor Jack Ricketts commenced operations in form, and came to the point at once.

"They tell me, Julia, my dear, you are going to mar- ry a Mr. Fitz Oswald, or a person, at least, who says that is his name."

"Oh yes; I've intended for a long time to write you a full account of it—but why do you talk of him so slightingly?

"Because I think I know him," replied the other.

"He never spoke to you of Harrowgate, did he?"

"No—that is—perhaps he may—for, by the by, now I remember, he has very large estates in the north."

"He? Ha! ha! ha! but really, my dear friend, I have come up on purpose to save you from the designs of this adventurer," repeated the other, in a tone of dis- pleasure.

"Adventurer! Who has dared to call him so? Who has been so busy in other people's affairs, as to take the trouble to write you any thing about it?"

"A true friend, Julia, one who would save you from a moment's uneasiness at the sacrifice of his life."

"Indeed! I think I can guess the source of these ca- lumnies—your cousin—a disappointed suitor."

"Unluckily he *is* disappointed—but, though hopeless for himself, he wishes, through me, to make an effort to prevent your future life from being one scene of misery and degradation. And I am qualified for the task, for I have been honoured with Mr. Augustus Frederick's at- tentions myself."

"How? When? Where? In Heaven's name tell me all," exclaimed the Widow, now fully aroused.

"He had another name, then; and at Harrowgate about five years ago he played the same game, under the title of Valerian Sidney Howard, which he now plays at Bath. Among others, he honoured me with his 'Notice.' I was then unmarried—rich, and perhaps a little fond of flattery. He flattered me to the top of my bent—appear- ed learned, clever, and, above all, amiable and benevo- lent. His estates at that time lay in the south—but at last he was discovered, convicted of swindling, imprison- ed two years, and, behold; here he is again."

"Nonsense! Your Valerian, or whatever he called himself, can never be my Augustus. Impossible!"

"Hem! I don't know. Could I see him?"

"Certainly, I am not the least ashamed of the object of my preference;" and the Widow tossed her head proudly.

"But I don't wish to be recognised by him. I must see him without being seen—a glance will do—if they are indeed different men, there never were two people bore such resemblances to each other in character and conduct. He is a public gambler; any one in Bath would tell you that."

"And I wouldn't believe them if they told it me a hundred times. No! not till I see him with my own eyes at the gambling-table shall I ever"——

"Will you be persuaded if you see him at the table?"

The Widow sighed, "Oh, yes, certainly, if I see him, there can then be no doubt on the subject."

When the ladies had come to this point of their dis- cussion, Mrs Harley's servant brought in a note.

"A letter, madam, for Mr FitzOswald."

"For Mr Fitz-Oswald! sent here!" exclaimed Mrs Linlayson; "that seems as if he were master here already Come now, Julia, let us just take one peep." She ran up to the table where the servant had laid it, and took the letter.

"No—no—for Heaven's sake!" exclaimed the Wi- dow—"a seal is sacred.'

"A seal! why, there isn't even a wafer. See! it has come openin my hand."

"Oh! twill only be some scientific appointment, or thanks, perhaps, from some poor people he has relieved."

"He will blush to find it fame," said Mrs Linlayson, beginning to read—

'Dear Pal,—We are all here, gathered round the board of green cloth, nd have resolved not to begin busi- ness till you come We are all in the fidgets for want of you. Our 'fat friend' lies grumblingly on the sofa; the light weights are at the different windows. Come along, then, or may you never shake elbow again. Yours, A. B.' A pretty epistle truly—I hope you have no longer any doubt," and she folded up the letter.

"Why, really, this seems a strange performance," re- plied the Widow, very much puzzled—"What can it mean?"

"The meaning seems plain enough," replied the other; "i'ts an invitation from one of his gambling associates to go and play at hazard. Who is his friend?"

"A. B.," said Mrs. Harley, musing. "What friend of his are these the initials of? B. B. Oh! now I know, it must either be from his friend, who was here a short time ago, Dr. Buckland—or his benevolent friend, Bowles the poet. He very often goes to Bremhill."

"Who? Fitz-Oswald? If he goes there, I have not another word to say against him—but how can you sup- pose, my dear Julia, that a note like this could come from any one but a low gambler? Don't the words of it con- vince you?"

But the Widow was not at all anxious to be convinced, yet the proof seemed very strong. She took up the note again, and placed it carefully in her reticule, and said, "Let us pass to some other subject, dear Mary; it is not yet too late, and I have it at any moment in my power to put an end to my acquaintance with Fitz-Oswald. I ex- pect him back in a very short time. You shall see him as he comes into the room, if you will go with me to the parlour in the passage. I will ask him the meaning of this letter, and regulate my future conduct according to his reply.

The two friends accordingly spent about half an hour pretending to converse on indifferent subjects, but too much occupied with what they had lately been talking a- bout, to be very entertaining to each other. At the end of the half hour, a step on the stair surprised them, for Au- gustus had provided himself with a pass-key, and did not trouble the domestics by ringing at the door; and Mrs. Linlayson had only time to run into the parlour which the Widow had mentioned when the hero of their conver- sation walked quickly into the drawingroom, and arrested Mrs. Harley before she could join her friend.

"Don't fly from me my Julia," he said, taking her by the hand—"I am now so hurried with business, that I grudge every moment you deprive me of your presence. But what is this? Have I offended you?"

"This letter will tell you sir, whether I ought to be of- fended or not," replied the Widow, showing him the dir- ty scrawl—"You know the hand?"

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this attack, any other man's assurance would have given way. Augustus burst into a laugh—"Ah, my queer friend, Abraham Bounce—I dare say the contents of that letter are as funny as himself. What does he say? He is an odd dog. You must know him one of these days."

"The signature is certainly A. B. Who is this Mr. Bounce?" said the Widow, more complacently.

"Oh, a man of science—he and I very often read together. He is a famous classic. You shall certainly be acquainted with my friend Bounce."

"I will read you the note, sentence by sentence," said Mrs. Harley, still in an unusually cold tone of voice; "his style is a strange one. He begins, *Dear Pal*—What does he mean by *Pal*?"

"Oh! a classical allusion," replied Augustus, "and a nicely turned compliment too. Palinurus, you know, was the pilot that steered old Homer's vessel when he went in search of the Golden Fleece. I have led poor Bounce through many passages in the old authors, and he always calls me his Pal; or guide—his Palinurus."

Mrs. Harley proceeded with the letter—"*We are all here, gathered round the board of green cloth.*"

"Ah! that's the library table—'tis covered with a green baize"—said Augustus.

"*And we have resolved not to begin business till you come.*"

"Reading.—That's very kind."

"*We are all in the fidgets for want of you.*"

"That's complimentary."

"*Our fat friend lies grumblingly on the sofa.*"

"Ah! that's a great thick volume of German divinity."

"What! a volume!" exclaimed Mrs. Harley—"how can a volume grumble?"

"A figurative expression. Bounce is a capital hand at figures—they call it prosopopœia."

"*The light weights are at the different windows.*"

"The magazines and reviews. We sometimes relax ourselves after severe study with a look into Blackwood or the Edinburgh"——

"*Come along then, or may you never shake elbow again.*—What does he mean by shaking elbows?"

"Don't you know I took lessons of Paganini?—Ah! it would indeed be a dreadful imprecation if I never were to shake elbow again. What should I do without my Cremona?" and Augustus sighed at the thought.

"And is all that you have told me really true?" said the Widow, delighted. "Oh! how I wish some of your detractors had been within hearing of your explanation."

"Detractors? Is it possible even my quiet unostentatious mode of life has not protected me from detraction? but I know the reason. 'Tis envy of the preference you have vouchsafed to show me. To you, and you only, I owe any enmity I may have excited."

"I believe it all; and to prove my belief, this very hour I will sign the contract, whatever may be said to the contrary."

"Angel! 'tis only what I expected of your magnanimity, your justice.—The attorney is down stairs—the witnesses are all ready—may I offer you my arm?"

Mrs Harley went into the parlour where she had directed her friend to remain; but the lady had disappeared The Widow proceeded down stairs; and in presence of proper witnesses, and with all the ceremonies of the law, the marriage-contract was signed, sealed, and delivered.

Chapter IV.

"Hawks abroad! we must cut our sticks, or have another taste of the mill," said Spragg to his master, whom he met at Mrs. Harley's door.

"How? what! exclaimed Augustus, somewhat alarmed—"Are the police awake?"

"Worse nor that. There's that there lady as you gallivanted with at Harrowgate—just afore we were nabbed—I've seen her with my own eyes—She has been for a whole hour this very day with your sweetheart—the devil take all hedication, say I."

"But why? who is it?—poh! man never mind. Do you see this little packet tied with its beautiful red tape? This puts me in possession of the Widow's fortune, and as to herself"——

"Her fortune, did you say?" cried the other, with glistening eyes. "That's the main chance. As to hall other matters, I supposes there are hother widdys in pleaty."

"Oh yes—but at the same time, Spragg, for two days more, we must be wide awake. Keep that lady, if you possibly can, from having a minute's conversation with Mrs. Harley. As for me, I will keep as much as possible out of the way. I am just on my road to old Jones, the moneylender, to get a few guineas he owes me; and to-night I am in for a go at hazard with a few good fellows to pluck a pigeon—a Captain Linlayson"——

"O curse all dice and cards! You're throwing away all your talents and all the lessons I gave you in the nimming line. There never was no fellow with a neater finger for a snuffbox, and now"——

"Well, Spragg, patience only for two days. After that you shall have your share; but don't set on me now."

Before he had time to part from his confederate, the very individual of whom he was in search came up and joined them.

"Your honourable worship's most subservient—I was just going to present myself to your honour."

"The devil you were—and fifty guineas to boot, I hope."

"Your worship is too good. The contents of the purse were a hundred and nine pounds; whereof fifty for money advanced—ten for interest."

"Well, fork out the old forty-nine."

"Your honour will excuse me; but when I saw how like a noble lady your noble lady behaved, I recollected some friends of mine who would be glad to be paid"——

"You were infernally kind to your friends. You went and told all my creditors to come and make their demands immediately?"

"Far from it, your nobleness—I went to stop them from coming, for in truth I have bought up all their accounts—I have got them all receipted."

"What have you done, you d—d old extortioner"

"Please your worship; will you pay me just now, or must I apply to the noble lady?"

"How much do you want?" said Augustus, biting his lips.

"Why, here is your tailor's bill—'twas a hundred and twenty, but as I got it a bargain I can let you have it for sixty-five—your confectioner, wine merchant, washerwoman, shoemaker, lodging, jeweller—the whole lot will not cost the noble lady above four hundred and fifty pounds—Is she at home just now?"

"Can't you wait for two days? I tell you I shall be married by that time, and every thing shall be paid?"

"Oh please your honour, she will never grudge such a paltry sum—I can't wait without security."

"What the devil's to be done now?—Here, take my servant here, I'll pawn him till the money's paid—lock him up till the last farthing is settled."

"You're cursed purtite," interposed the domestic, "we have both on us had enough of locking up—why don't you knock the old Jew into the gutter and run for it?"

"Away from the Widow's fortune? No, no, I've a trick worth two of that."

"But think of the pleasure of flooring the hould willen."

"Here, old skinflint," at last said Augustus, "you say you won't wait without security; here's the marriage contract, all properly attested, will that content you?

"Oh! certainly, your honourable worship, you shall have it again on payment of these bills."

"Yes; but I want a little money in the mean time, give me the odd fifty, and the contract shall be good for five hundred."

This was very civilly advanced by the usurer, and even Spragg, in spite of the apparition of Mrs. Linlayson, began to think that every thing was secure.

In the mean time, the confederates in the interest of my friend Jack had not been idle. Mrs. Linlayson had satisfied herself of the identity of the fascinating Augustus with the adventurer of Harrowgate; and, besides the satisfaction of aiding her cousin, had now the additional motive of saving her friend from the certainty of disgrace. She had taken her measures well; but after the specimen she had seen of the Widow's wilful blindness, she was not without some apprehension that her effort to open her eyes would be unavailing. Linlayson had introduced himself to the coterie of one of the gambling-houses, and had arranged to join the party that evening, being assured at the same time, that Augustus would not be absent, Jack, who really loved the Widow, was lamenting all day that the character of his rival prevented him from settling the business in a more summary manner, and consented to accompany his friend Linlayson to the table, though determined to take no active part in the game. When all their plans were properly arranged, the lady betook herself to the house of Mrs. Harley, and the gentlemen to the Crockford's of Bath.

"I am glad you have come," said the Widow very coldly, that I may tell you that your suspicions are unfounded, and that Augustus Frederick Fitz-Oswald is as pure and honourable a gentleman"——

"As Valerian Sidney Howard," replied the other. "I saw him, my dear friend, it is the same."

"Impossible. You told me that the person you talk of paid you attention; that he flattered you, and then that he was found out. How do I know that your account of him may not be slightly coloured by your disappointment? What if his theft consisted of a heart and the despairing maiden vents her spleen in calling him a swindler?"

"But, my dear Julia," said Mrs. Linlayson, a little nettled at the insinuations of her friend, "the jailor was never flattered, and he will tell you the same story—the finisher of the law who whipped him (for he was sentenced also to a public flogging) never listened to his compliments, and he will give you the same information.

"Mrs. Linlayson—madam!" exclaimed the Widow, "You wish me to believe that Mr. Fitz-Oswald is a wretch who has been branded as a felon. To this felon I have signed this very day my contract of marriage."

"I know it," replied the other; "but you will never marry him."

"Then, do you fancy, madam, I believe your preposterous stories? Your version of the very amiable letter he received this morning from the celebrated philosopher, Dr. Bounce, puts me on my guard against any interpretation you may offer of his character or conduct. We were once friends, but now, madam"——

"We shall be greater friends than ever. Dear Julia, don't fly into a passion. Every thing will be settled delightfully. You don't care for this superficial impostor, I know you don't. Confess that if, you were fully convinced of his infamy, you could whistle him down the wind without a pang."

"Certainly, if I were convinced."

"And that you shall most assuredly be. Your own eyes, your own ears, shall be witnesses. Are you afraid to run the chance?

"Of what?—of discovering my Augustus to be a villain?"

"Even so," replied Mrs Linlayson.

"Not in the least; if you will let him explain what, ever may appear odd in his behaviour. I was alarmed by what I heard his explanation of Dr Bounce's letter I was highly alarmed; and if he had not joined the two gentlemen introduced to me. I should have thought them, in their appearance, very different characters from Dr Bounce and Sir Hans Sloane—but scientific people are generally very odd; and a word from Augustus explained every difficulty."

"We shall see. Come with me this very moment, I will take you to a house where you will see him shaking his elbow in good earnest"

"A concert—oh, I shall be delighted to hear him play!"

"You shall *see* him play; he is quite a master of the dice-box."

"See him gamble!—play!—dice! lose money!—Oh, that may be only once. The quietest men in the world occasionally gamble a little with their friends."

"Ay—but this is at a public table;—we are to see the party through a glass door, Linlayson has bribed the keeper of the house to let us peep.—Come on; by this time they are all assembled."

"There you are mistaken," said the Widow, proudly; "for this very night he is deeply engaged along with a great botanist from Dublin, Mr M'Kay, classifying some plants."

"Yes; he is no doubt very busy culling simples: for I believe at this very hour he is endeavouring to pillage Captain Linlayson."

"Is he also of the party? Then it can't be so very bad."

"Yes; he is there—Mr. Ricketts is there,—Come quickly, Julia, or we shall be too late."

After a few more attempts at procrastination, the Widow allowed herself to be prevailed on. The ladies wrapt themselves closely up in their cloaks; and as it was not very far from the Crescent to the gambling-house, they walked in silence to the place, were received by Linlayson at the door, and smuggled into a room where, through a small pane of glass, they could see every thing that was going on.

Many people were gathered round a table—a man sitting on a lofty seat, armed with a slight cane, shaped like a spoon at the extremity, seemed to direct the proceedings, crying out, "Make your game, gentlemen, make your game!"

"Wait a moment!" exclaimed a voice, which made Mrs. Harley jump—"What's become of your friend, Mr. Ricketts? he has not gone off, I hope, without giving me my revenge?"

But his further speech was broken off by the return of Linlayson to his chair.

"Make your game, gentlemen!" cried the croupier.

"Here," said Augustus, taking the box—"here's all I've got in the world—Is it covered?"

"Covered!" said Captain Linlayson, laying down the same amount that Augustus had placed before him.

"Seven's the main," said Augustus, and threw the dice.

"Crabs!" cried the croupier, and pushed all the money of Augustus to Captain Linlayson. The other gamblers had left off the game, the battle had become so embittered between these two.

"What's to be done now!" exclaimed Augustus, with an oath.

"You've cleaned me out—I will give you paper—I. O. U."

"No paper," said the Captain. "I hate it like crow-pies. But you've surely something about you—a man in your situation so soon to be married"——

"Yes, but I haven't fingered the cash yet. The Widow is a d—d sly bird—the deuce a thing has she given me yet but a score or two of letters."

"Well, they're good for something," said the Captain.

"What! are you serious? How much will you stake against each of them?"

"The guineas," replied Linlayson.

"No mistake? exclaimed Augustus. "Why you're a trump of a fellow—here they are—one, two, three, four, five. There they lie, loving, civil, romantic, religious—cover them with fifty, and give me the box."

"'Pon my soul," interrupted Jack Ricketts—"this is too bad—I will not allow a lady's letters to be so publicly"——

"What the devil have you to say to it eh? Are you going to marry the Widow?" said Augustus blustering.

"Marry or not, I won't allow a swindling scoundrel like you to profane her name before these gentlemen. Pocket these letters directly, or I'll lick you out of this room," Jack grinded his teeth as he spoke.

"Why, what do you mean, sir?" replied Augustus, greatly sobered by the determined tone of Jack Rickett. "I can't see what business you have to interfere between this gentleman and me. He chooses to take these letters as equivalent to so much"——

"I will take them at the same price," said Jack, magnanimously. "But I give my honour at the same time I shall never look at their contents, but restore them uninjured to the lady they belong to. Here are fifty guineas, sir."

"But here are ten or twelve more, sir," said Augustus—"you may as well buy the whole batch.

Before, however, Jack had had time to pull out the requisite funds, Mrs Harley, whose indignation got the better of every other consideration, rushed into the room. The gamblers, scared by the sudden movement, evacuated the room, leaving only Linlayson, Jack Ricketts Augustus, and the two ladies, of whom Mrs Lynlayson retained her veil.

"Give *me* the letters," said Mrs Harley. "you are discovered, sir. Our acquaintance is at an end."

"My Julia! so unkind! I confess indeed that appearances are against me. I have been inveigled, for the first time of my life, into a place of this sort by my friend Rickets."

"How dare you call me your friend, you scoundred?" said Jack, breathing fire.

"You take advantage of the presence of these ladies,' replied Augustus very coolly. "But I forgive you. But *you*, my Julia, to be so unkind! 'Tis more than I can bear." As he said this, he covered his eyes with his handkerchief, and seemed to hide his tears.

"'Tis too late, sir. I have heard and seen all you have done. My name insulted—my letters publicly sold"——

"And yet, Julia, you are the first woman I ever loved—the only one in whom I ever reposed my hopes of happiness, of peace, of virtue! Are all to be destroyed by the light-hearted folly of a moment? I knew that your letters would be safe in the keeping of Mr. Ricketts. Would I have parted with such precious treasures to the cold hands of a stranger?"

"I had the first chance," said Captain Linlayson—"but Jack was too quick. He was down on them like a hammer."

"You are silent, Julia? You! the only one I ever loved—the only one I ever thought of asking to share my name!"

"Which of them?" said Mrs. Linlayson, throwing off her veil, and looking indignantly at the lover, who began to fancy he was softening the Widow's displeasure; "is it to be Mrs. Fitz-Oswald you invite her, as once you invited another person to be Mrs. Howard? You are unmasked."

"Unmasked, do you say?" replied Augustus, seeing all subterfuges vain, and assuming a tone of dogged assurance. "Unmasked, do you say? So much the better. I have no further need of a mask when the game is in my hands. Mrs Harley, I will no longer play the lover. I must now put on a higher character—as the contract of marriage is signed, giving me every shilling of your property"——

"Villain!" whispered Jack Ricketts; "there is one true heart that can sympathize with yours."

"You have it, sir—it is your option whether to marry me or not; but the property is mine," continued Augustus with a sneer.

"Not quite so fast," interrupted Mrs Linlayson "The contract, a few hours ago, was in the possession of a certain Mr. Jones, to whom this very disinterested gentleman had pawned it for five hundred pounds. Two hours ago I paid the money, and the contract is here!" She held it up as she spoke, and tore it into a thousand pieces.

Augustus now saw every thing lost; but while he was preparing to give utterance to his vexation, the door was opened, and the unhappy Spragg walked in, held firmly by two policemen.

"That there is the hindiwidual," whispered the servitor, pointing to his master. "His real name is Jem Crike, and no mistake; and all this comes along of his cursed hedication,"

"Carry the fellow to jail!" exclaimed Augustus; "I have found him out in many dishonest tricks."

"Vat! are you a-gain' to peach, Jem, I've got the start on ye—and every thing you've done shall be told to the beaks, since you ran away from the rope-dancer's troop till this werry day."

"Rope-dancer's troop! whistled Captain Linlayson. "His rope-dancing isn't over yet"——

"'Tis true, indeed," said Augustus, in a sentimental tone. "that I was stolen from my parents in early youth, and sold by gipsies to a company of dancers. Julia? is the voice of Nature dead within you? In me behold your long lost brother!"

"My brother!" exclaimed Mrs Harley; "I never *had* a brother."

"So, then, our mother has kept her loss secret from you! How kind! how considerate to your feelings!"

"Bother! interrupted Spragg. "I know's your mother afore you was born; so no more flaring up about gipsies, and that there"——

The conversation was here interrupted by one of the policemen, who, going up to Jack Rickets, said, "I believe, sir, by the description you gave us of the watch you lost last night at the fancy ball, this is it. We traced it to this man. He confesses he picked it from the gentleman's pocket who saved this lady from the crowd."

"Twas I that saved the lady," said Augustus, as bold as brass; "she'll tell you so herself."

"Indeed," began the Widow, "I believe"——

"No such thing," said Spragg; "Jem wan't at the ball at all. Twas o'this here gentleman as I nabbed the ticker."

"Come, sir," said the policeman to Augustus; "You must come with us quietly; your confederate has told us some of your doings, and you must have a little talk with the magistrate."

"Do you mean me, fellow!" replied Augustus. "I shall certainly write to the Ministry to punish you for insulting a gentleman. As to you, sir (turning to Jack Ricketts), your insolence is not forgotten; you shall hear from me in a few days'—and he marched off like a king in a tragedy.

"We shall all come to see you whipt at the cart's tail," interrupted Captain Linlayson. "In the mean time, be off with the police, or I'll take the hangman's office in my own hands, and dress you like—whipt cream!"

The watch was restored to its rightful owner, and Mrs Linlayson whispered, as the party sallied forth on their way to the Crescent, "What do you think now of my plain cousin, Jack?"

"That I am unworthy to mention his name."

But a few months served to convince her that she was not only worthy to mention his name, but to wear it too; for it is not very long since I received a beautiful pair of white kid gloves, with two cards tied together by silver threads—and on the larger of the cards was written,

MRS. JOHN BICKETTS,

Blackwoods Magazine. *No.*——*Crescent.*

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

BY MRS. CRAWFORD.

One of Sir Charles Stuart's sisters married Lord [illegible]cartney, whose name is familiar to the public, thro[illegible] his celebrated embassay to China. In his department was grave and reserved, quite the opposite of his counte[illegible] with whom he lived in the enjoyment of great domesti[illegible] harmony. Lady Macartney was one of the most cheer[illegible]ful and entertaining women I ever met with. She was [illegible] perfect chronicle of the times she had lived in. At the age of eighty-four, she enjoyed the full possession of all her faculties, and walked nimbly about her delightful re[illegible]treat at Chiswick. The warm and lively feelings of youth seemed to animate her heart to the last, and made her greatly beloved by all the juvenile members of the family.

She was one of the number of earls' daughters who held up the queen's train, at the coronation of George the Third. Her account of it was highly amusing. "At that period," said she, "those high heads, like the tower of Babel, were all the mode: and on this important occasion hair-dressers were in such request, that it was difficult to secure the attendance of one at the precise hour it might be wished. I got my head done the evening before; and for fear of discomposing or tumbling it, I sate up all night in an easy chair, with my maid to watch by me, to see that I did not fall asleep. You may suppose, therefore, I was pretty well tired by the time the coronation and its subsequent gaieties were ended; and that when at last I did get to bed, I left my head to take care of itself. There never was a fashion that interfered more with the enjoyment of the pillow; for what with false hair, wool, a great cushion, and innumerable bodkins, it was anything but agreeable to sleep in."

* * * * * * *

The late Earl of Lonsdale, was a man of a proud and overbearing temper; and it was entirely through the amiability of her own disposition, that his countess was enabled to keep anything like terms with him. I learned, when in Westmoreland, that his lordship had been very far from popular in his own country and neighbourhood, where the old people relate some curious anecdotes him. He was possessed of immense wealth; with which, however, he did very little good, but rather seemed to take pleasure in letting it run to waste. The good elders still tell of piles of carpets that were never opened out, and furniture that was never unpacked; of game not a little, that was neither consumed nor given away; and of horses which, entirely unbroken in, ran wild, through woods as wild and neglected as themselves, and which lived for no earthly purpose but to consume the herbage, which would otherwise have rotted on the ground. Some stories of his tyranny and waywardness, on a small scale, were rather amusing. He would set out upon some shooting excursion, or other rural expedition, with perhaps two or three subaltern officers of his own county militia, or other humble friends or dependents, in his suite. When they had all had such a quantum of exercise and pure Westmoreland air, as he knew would induce a keen appetite, he would propose a halt, in some convenient and inviting spot, and order the servants to unpack the well-stored hamper. When the viands were all spread out and arranged, in most tempting order, and the gentlemen of the party were just thinking how extremely comfortable they should be, and only waiting his lordship's signal to begin, he would suddenly propose, upon some frivolous [illegible]plausible pretext, that they should rather adjourn to some other still more convenient and delightful spot, (as he termed it,) at some miles' distance; then ordered the servants to repack the hamper, remounted his horse and rode on, followed by the grumbling and famished [illegible] obsequiously following silently [illegible] the benedic[illegible]ipated repast. [illegible] occasion he invited [illegible] Lowther Castle, and [illegible] country clergymen. Before [illegible]ved, upon some excuse of showing them a[illegible]e offices, to take them through the kitchen, where a remarkably fine haunch of venison was roasting before the fire. As soon as they returned they were summoned to the dining-room, where a most excellent dinner was served up. Nearly all the party, however, hung back, and were evidently extremely sparing in their attentions to the various delicacies that were set before them. His lordship smiled, and pressed them to eat, in his blandest and most hospitable style. When the several dishes were at length done with, and successively withdrawn, it may be imagined with what doleful countenances the still-hungry guests gazed upon each other, when a few puffs and tartlets announced the concluding scene, and instead of seeing the door again open, to admit the smoking haunch, his lordship politely requested one of the clergymen to oblige him by saying grace?

Occasionally, however, it would seem that the eccentric peer was himself outwitted. Having offered a seat for one of his boroughs to Mr. Robinson of Appleby, he had likewise to provide him (as, I believe, is still frequently the case) with the necessary qualification, on the usual honourable understanding, that as between the parties the estate is only *lent* for the particular purpose, and not *given* absolutely, as the deed may in law import. But the temptation, in this case, turned out to be too great. Mr. Robinson, therefore, throught it right to save one side of his conscience at the expense of the other, by *making* the estate his own, which he had been obliged to *call* his own, before he could take his seat in the House of Commons. He refused to give the property back to the exasperated earl, who found himself left without any legal remedy.

It may be well to observe, that the present Lord Lonsdale is only a collateral relation of the late earl, of whom I have been speaking, and that his character is as estimable and deservedly popular as that of his predecessor was unamiable and generally disliked.—*Metropolitan Magazine, for May.*

THE TABLES TURNED.—At the Donegal Assizes the following humorous cross-examination of a witness occasioned much merriment:—Mr. Doherty: What business do you follow?—I am a schoolmaster. Did you turn off your scholars or did they turn you off?—I do not wish to answer irrevalent questions—(laughter]. Are you a great favourite with your pupils?—Aye, troth am I, a much greater favourite than you are with the public. Where were you, sir, this night?—This night! said the witness—there is a learned man—this night is not yet come; I suppose you mean that night (here the witness looked at the judge, and winked his eye as if in triumph). I presume the "schoolmaster was abroad" that night doing nothing? Define "nothing" said witness. Mr, Doherty did not comply.—Well, said the *learned* schoolmaster, I will define it—it is a footless stocking without a leg—(roars of laughter, in which his lordship joined). You may go down, sir.—Faith,, I believe you're tired enough of me; but it is my profession to enlighten the public, and if you have any more questions to ask I will answer them.—*Gosport Herald, April 22.*

OVERWHELMING HONOUR.—General Irribarren seems not only quite satisfied with being defeated in a most exemplary manner by Don Sebastian, but also to consider the being nearly killed an additional gratification. In his despatch, he says, "I also had the honour of being wounded." In the preceding sentence he tells us that Commander Don Diego Leon was killed. Why not say "Don Diego Leon had the honour of being shot through the head." *Falstaff* defined "honour" as well as does General Irribarren.

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